

## PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Houthoff, et al.

Examiner: Sisson, B.

Serial No.: 09/402,707

Group Art Unit: 1655

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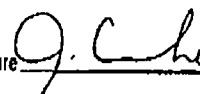
For: METHODS FOR LABELING  
NUCLEOTIDES, LABELED  
NUCLEOTIDES AND USEFUL INTERMEDIATES

Dated: July 23, 2001

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Date

7/23/01

AMENDMENT

Sir:

Responsive to the office action of March 22, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Replace the paragraph starting at page 18, line 27 with the following paragraph:

**Direct spot blot**

HPV-6 probe (batch # 061094) labeled with biotin according to the invention was 10-fold serially diluted into spot buffer comprising 900mM sodium chloride, 90mM sodium citrate and 200 µg/ml single stranded salmon sperm DNA giving a dilution series varying from 1000-0.1 pg biotin probe per µl. 1 µl spots were applied onto nitrocellulose membrane and incubated for 2 hours at 80°C to bind the DNA. The biotin probe was visualized using a streptavidin-alkaline phosphatase conjugate (Sigma) combined with a NBT/BCIP precipitating substrate solution (Sigma) according to the following protocol:

-Membranes were soaked in TBS solution containing 0.5% TWEEN20 (TBST) for 5 minutes.

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(N.C.)

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